

GLEN ECHO PARK, YELLOW BARN
(Maintenance Shop)
George Washington Memorial Parkway
7300 McArthur Boulevard
Glen Echo
Montgomery County
Maryland

HABS MD-1080-E
MD,16-GLENEC,3E-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. MD-1080-E

GLEN ECHO PARK, YELLOW BARN (Glen Echo Park, Maintenance Shop)

Location: 7300 MacArthur Boulevard, Glen Echo Park, Glen Echo, Montgomery County, Maryland. (UTM coordinates: Zone 18, E 314715/N 4315048)

Present Owner

& Occupant: George Washington Memorial Parkway, National Capitol Region, National Park Service.

Present Use: Public Park.

Significance: Glen Echo's Yellow Barn is a tangible reminder of the site's Chautauqua-era past and of its first years as an amusement park under the stewardship of Leonard B. Schloss and the ownership of Capital Transit. The east (rear) elevation is a remnant of the Chautauqua-period store and arcade structure and the sturdy stone masonry construction of that entity stands in contrast to the lighter, wood frame sections built up around, and beside, it in 1914 when the so-called Yellow Barn was erected. The Chautauqua-era stone wall is about 96' in length and 30" thick. Although incorporating the Chautauqua-era wall and foundations where extant, the Yellow Barn was a utilitarian structure that served the administrative and maintenance needs of the business side of the amusement park. In this sense, the building was a "barn" in the storage or shelter understanding of the term, and so rather than call it a maintenance shop or shed, the building was named for its colorful exterior paint and loosely for its function.

PART 1. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1914.¹
2. Architect: There is no known architect per se responsible for the erection of the Yellow Barn. It is likely that Victor E. Mindeleff is the architect behind the Chautauqua Tower and the adjacent stone arcade, the foundations of which were used in the Yellow Barn.²

¹ Eastern Team, Denver Service Center, National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior, "Glen Echo Park Historic Structures Report," March 1987, p. III-82, footnote 36, at Glen Echo Park, Glen Echo, Maryland. (HSR hereafter).

² HSR, p. III-19; Barry Mackintosh, "Chautauqua Tower," Nomination Form, March 28, 1980, National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, Washington, D.C. Note: Both Mindeleff and his brother Cosmos conducted business with Edwin and Edward Baltzley, probably relating to the purchase or design of houses in the Baltzleys'

3. Original and subsequent owners, occupants, uses: Because it was constructed in 1914, the Yellow Barn has always been a part of amusement park at Glen Echo, and not the Chautauqua endeavor. Initially the south end of the building was used by the park superintendent's family as a residence.³ The northern sections were used as storage. After 1928, the Yellow Barn was used as the amusement park's maintenance shop. Today, the northern sections are used as a gallery space, as studios for the artists based in the park, and as locker rooms for the artists' personal belongings. The chain of title for Glen Echo Park is as follows:

July 7, 1888 Edward and Laura A. Baltzley of Washington City bought 516 acres more or less containing parts of the tracts of land called the "Resurvey on Magruder and Beall Honesty," "Fletchall's Garden," and "Magruder's and Beall Honesty" for \$20,000.00 from William and Sarah H. Reading of Montgomery County; at Edward Baltzley's request, the deed was recorded on August 2, 1888.⁴ In August of 1888, Baltzley recorded his mortgage for the property covering the remaining \$18,000.00 that he owed to Reading. The payments consisted of four promissory notes in denominations of \$3000, \$5000, \$5000, and \$5000 and payable to the Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville over the ensuing three years. If Baltzley were to default, then Thomas Anderson and William Veirs Bowie, Jr., were to sell it at Mrs. Bolinger's Hotel or Cabin John Bridge after advertising the property as "for sale" for at least three weeks beforehand.⁵

March 24, 1891 Edward and Laura A. Baltzley and Edwin and Edith M. Baltzley

real estate development. See Edwin and Edward Baltzley, Cash Book, 1889-1895, and Edwin and Edward Baltzley, Ledger, 1890-1893 (Richard A. Cook Collection, copies in the Clara Barton House Library, Glen Echo Park, Glen Echo, Maryland (microfilm 1, books 2-3)). (Glen Echo Park hereafter). Similarly, Victor Mindeleff and the Philadelphia architect Theophilus P. Chandler, Jr., are both listed in the ledger book and charged against the real estate account. Chandler's role was identified as relating to the Patawomeck Café, while Mindeleff's was left more ambiguous. The ledger and cash book also place George Freeman Pollock at Glen Echo as well; Pollock recalled Mindeleff as the architect of Glen Echo, after Chandler designed the Amphitheatre and the Baltzley brothers' houses.

³ HSR, p. III-82, footnote 36. In the 1920 census records, Finlon was recorded as living in Glen Echo, Montgomery County, Maryland; he was forty-two years old and had been born in Pennsylvania. Finlon's family included his wife Teresa, age forty-two; their daughters Genevieve, age sixteen; and Eleanor, age eleven; their son Harold, age fourteen; and their daughter Clair, age six. Clair was born in Maryland; however, the others were all born in Pennsylvania. See Bureau of the Census, Population Schedules, 1920, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C. The implication from the birthplaces of his children is that Finlon moved to Maryland specifically to work in Glen Echo Amusement Park and to live there. His youngest child, Clair, was born the year he built the Yellow Barn.

⁴ Montgomery County Land Records, Liber JA, No. 11, pp. 70-82.

⁵ Montgomery County Land Records, Liber JA, No. 10, pp. 210-213.

conveyed to the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo ten acres more or less of their property in Montgomery County. The land was described as "all that certain piece or parcel of land and premises known and distinguished as being the lands conveyed to [the Baltzleys] by Rosa Bobinger lying east or a little south of east of Cabin John Creek, and further described as being a portion of lot ten of the John D. Grady survey, bounded on the west by Cabin John Stream, on the south by the Canal, and on the North by the Conduit Road [...The] land must be used for purpose of education upon the Chautauqua idea and plan and for no other purpose whatsoever and in event that the land is not used for education upon the Chautauqua plan [the land will revert back to the Baltzleys]."⁶ A second deed transferred an additional sixty-seven acres more or less to the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo in April of 1891.⁷

March 10, 1894 At the request of the Baltimore Building and Loan Association a mortgage was recorded on March 28, 1894. The National Chautauqua of Glen Echo wanted an extension on the loan made to the Glen Echo Land and Building Company by the Baltimore Building and Loan Association on April 7, 1892. The National Chautauqua of Glen Echo wanted to prevent the eminent foreclosure because its property was adjacent to that of the building company and it was "part of the same enterprise." Fearing foreclosure would ruin their business, the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo offered additional security to the initial mortgage, namely twenty acres of land including the Amphitheater, Hall of Philosophy, and Administration Building.⁸ The last, however, was already mortgaged in part to the Carl Barckhuff Church Organ Company of Salem, Ohio. For \$309.00, the organ company owned a lien against the Gate Tower buildings of the Administration Building complex and the organ in the Amphitheater. The Baltimore Building and Loan Association granted a two-year extension on the loan.⁹

⁶ Montgomery County Land Records, Liber JA, No. 25, pp. 179-181.

⁷ Montgomery County Land Records, Liber JA, No. 25, pp. 252-254.

⁸ Of these three buildings, the Administration Building – now known as the Chautauqua Tower – is the only one left standing. The Amphitheater was converted into the Midway but later burned; the Hall of Philosophy stood for a number of years but is no longer extant.

⁹ Montgomery County Land Records, Liber JA, No. 43, pp. 325-329. The Baltzleys joined the Baltimore Building and Land Association in March of 1892. Each brother had twenty shares, noted as a membership fee, and the total charge was forty dollars. Perhaps this was done as a contingency or stipulation to the mortgage. Edwin and Edward Baltzley, Cash Book, 1889-1895 (Glen Echo Park, microfilm 1, book 2).

February 16, 1897 An indenture was made between the Washington and Glen Echo Railroad Company, the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo, Edward and Laura A. Baltzley, and Edwin and Edith M. Baltzley that conveyed a right of way to the railway for a double track, electrically-equipped railroad.¹⁰

April 21, 1903 A deed made April 21, 1903, by Fielder C. Slingluff, attorney, is hereinafter summarized: Under and by virtue of a mortgage from the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo to the Baltimore Building and Loan Association of Baltimore City bearing date March 10, 1894, and recorded in Liber JA, No. 43, pp. 325 &c., Fielder C. Slingluff – the attorney named in the mortgage – proceeded to sell the property as advertised on November 2, 1902. Bird M. Robinson and Randolph Barton, receivers for the Baltimore Building and Loan Association, got the property in question for \$15,000.00. The sale was reported to the Montgomery County Circuit Court under title, “Baltimore Building and Loan Association of Baltimore City vs. National Chautauqua of Glen Echo,” and was taken to the Circuit Court of the United States by the National Chautauqua in January of 1903. The U.S. Circuit Court for the district of Maryland ratified the sale on April 9, 1903. The receivers then paid the \$15,000.00 and so won title to the property first described in a deed made on March 24, 1891, from the Baltzleys to the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo recorded in Liber JA, No. 25, beginning on p. 179, and in another deed from the Baltzleys dated April 17, 1891 and recorded in Liber JA 25, beginning on p. 252. Excepted from this transaction were the lands of the Red Cross Society and Clara Barton and the land retained by the Baltzleys “containing the Administration Building or Gate House Tower and buildings thereto attached on the west side of the entrance to the Chautauqua ground now owned by the Baltimore Building and Loan Association by a purchase under a mortgage from the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo to Carl Barckhoff Church Organ Company.” Included in the transaction from the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo to the Baltimore Building and Loan Association were the Amphitheater and the Hall of Philosophy.¹¹

¹⁰ Montgomery County Land Records, Liber JA, No. 58, pp. 184-192; see also, Montgomery County Land Records, Liber JA, No. 53, p. 392.

¹¹ Montgomery County Land Records, Liber TD 26, pp. 107-109. Moreover, the Evening Star reported that the “Foreclosure proceedings under a mortgage given by the National Chautauqua Association to the Baltimore Building and Loan Association have resulted in the purchase of the Glen Echo property by the Trustees of the building

- March 14, 1911 Jennie Miles Hepburn and Frederick Hepburn of Jersey City, New Jersey, the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo, Edith M. Baltzley and Edwin Baltzley sold to the Washington Railway and Electric Company all those lots in Montgomery County (lots one through twelve, block two, lots thirteen through twenty-six, and block five, the Chautauqua property outlined in Liber JA, No. 25, p. 253) with all the buildings and improvements thereon. Louis E. Baltzley, attorney for the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo, acknowledged the deed on the Chautauqua's behalf. Moreover, three previous deeds were corrected and amended at this time: the first two involved the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo and Mary E. Kammerer on April 27, 1893 (Liber JA, No. 38, p. 140), and on April 19, 1895 (Liber JA, No. 49, p. 111), and the third involved Edith M. Baltzley and Edwin Baltzley to Jennie Miles Hepburn on October 18, 1909, (see Liber 210, p. 65).¹²
- April 1, 1954 Capital Transit Company transferred ownership of Glen Echo Park to Continental Enterprises, Inc. The sale included three parcels of land, with all the improvements, easements and appurtenances thereto belonging, situated in Montgomery County. The easements held by the Potomac Electric Power Company remained in force, moreover. The first parcel contained just over sixteen acres. The second parcel included lots one through five of the subdivision known as the "National Chautauqua of Glen Echo," and recorded in Plat Book B, pp. 16-17. The third parcel was lot nineteen of block one of the "National Chautauqua of Glen Echo" property.¹³
- June 17, 1955 Continental Enterprises, Inc., sold Glen Echo Park to Rekab, Inc., for \$950,000.00.¹⁴
- April 1, 1970 Rekab, Inc., sold its Glen Echo property, consisting of six parcels of land, to the United States Government. The government also acquired a seventh tract, described in a "Plat of Abandonment," that was abandoned by Montgomery County in Council Resolution No. 4-2613.¹⁵

association, the bid being \$13,000." See "Glen Echo Property Transferred," Evening Star 20 May 1903 p. 16.

¹² Montgomery County Land Records, Liber 218, pp. 272-274.

¹³ Montgomery County Land Records, Liber 1922, pp. 398-402.

¹⁴ Montgomery County Land Records, Liber 2072, pp. 448-451.

¹⁵ Montgomery County Land Records, Liber 3952, pp. 575-578. Actually, Rekab, Inc., traded the sixteen-plus acres of Glen Echo for the Old Emergency Hospital property in Washington, D.C. The Government Services

4. **Builder, Contractor, Suppliers:** After a fire in 1914 destroyed the stone arcade next to the Chautauqua Tower, park Superintendent Frank Finlon built the Yellow Barn in its place. Finlon incorporated the remains of the stone arcade (its rear or east wall) into the new structure.¹⁶ The suppliers he turned to for the project materials are unknown at this time.
5. **Original Plans and Construction:** There are no known plans for the structure as Superintendent Frank Finlon conceived of it in 1914. The two-story south end of the building was used as a residence by Finlon and his family into the 1920s; the one-story section to the north was used as for storage or a maintenance shed, or both. Perhaps it was the utilitarian purpose of the structure that gave it the appellation “barn.”
6. **Alterations and additions:** The Yellow Barn looks today much the same as it did when Frank Finlon built it. However, the screens are gone from the second-floor southwest porch, the gutters and roof coverings have been upgraded, and a chimneystack has appeared and disappeared from the roofline. A porch and door into the first floor at the southwest corner, a vent on the west side of the roof, a large window have all vanished.¹⁷ During the National Park Service’s tenure, the southern-most of the windows in the west elevation of the north extension was converted to a door and the door opening into the north elevation was changed from double doors into the single, outswing door seen today.¹⁸

B. Historical Context:

The Yellow Barn was built out of the ashes of the store buildings and architectural arcade that were erected for the Glen Echo Chautauqua in 1891.¹⁹ Like its predecessor had done between 1891 and 1914, the Yellow Barn served as administrative and business offices, as a residence for the park Superintendent, as a storage facility, and as a maintenance shop for Glen Echo Amusement Park. Similar in service to the national park, the Yellow Barn also shares with its predecessor – the stone store buildings and arcade – a location on the edge of

Administration (GSA) valued Glen Echo at \$2,685,000.00. In 1970, the National Park Service began managing the site, although it was not until March of 1976 that the Park Service officially became the property’s steward. Of the sixteen-plus acres, seven and one-half became the Clara Barton National Historic Site and the remaining nine and one-third acres became part of the George Washington Memorial Parkway system. The latter is Glen Echo Park. HSR, p. III-160.

¹⁶ HSR, p. III-82, footnote 36.

¹⁷ West Elevation of Chautauqua Tower and Yellow Barn, Photograph, 1919, Richard A. Cook Collection, with copy at Glen Echo Park, Glen Echo, Maryland; HSR, pp. IV-13 to IV-14.

¹⁸ Personal Communication, J. Raul Vazquez, HABS Architect, to author, Summer 2001.

¹⁹ Here the term “arcade” refers to its architectural character and so should not be confused with the amusement park “arcade” or game room; here the term arcade is understood to be a covered walkway with a series of arches along one side and shops and offices on the other. Its form derives from the Greek stoa.

the property. Extending northward from the western tower, together the towers and arcade marked part of the outer boundary of the Glen Echo Chautauqua land. Early, most likely promotional, material outlined the design of the Chautauqua grounds:

[beyond the Amphitheater to the northeast is the hotel and to the] left of [the] hotel rise the gate towers, tall and stately; the deep tones of the bells from the belfry detonate musical upon the still air; the long sheltering range of store buildings, with intricacy of gothic roof and cooling shadow of porch and portico, reposes restful and inviting. And still beyond, ...cottages to east and west.²⁰

The plat made of the Glen Echo Chautauqua property upholds this description of the structures' relationship to one another in the landscape. It does not, however, include any architectural renderings of the store buildings and arcade.²¹ From the visible remains of the original structure, now an integral part of the east elevation of the Yellow Barn, it is obvious that the arcade was made of stone like the other Chautauqua-era edifices.

Appearance of the Arcade

A photograph taken in 1891 shows a one and a half story, gable-roofed structure extending northward from the Chautauqua Tower. Close to the tower, the roof rises above the north-to-south ridge of the main arcade in a steep pitch and is punctuated by two dormers on its west face and a vent at the ridge. The northern-most of the dormers encases a pair of windows. Also on the west face of the arcade roof, there is a series of at least three dormers, each glazed by a single window and capped by what resembles a hip roof. The lower roof, possibly a shed roof, extends over the first floor and so protects the stores who rented arcade space on the first floor of the structure.²²

²⁰ The Glen Echoan, Devoted to Glen Echo and the Glen Echo Chautauqua, pp. 15-18; HSR, p. III-34.

²¹ Montgomery County Land Records, Plat Book B, pp. 16-17, Henry B. Looker, "Plat of the National Chautauqua of Glen-Echo of Montgomery County, Maryland," 1891. (Reference: Liber JA No. 25, folio 253).

²² Photograph, West Façade, taken during the Chautauqua era, Richard Cook Collection; "The National Chautauqua: The Glen Echo Railway All Right – More About Prices." Washington Post 12 June 1891, p. 1. (Library of Congress, microfilm reel 39, 03-26/1891-06-15/1891).

In 1900, looking from north to south generally at the arcade when the Chautauqua opened, the building terminated in a round, semi-detached tower capped by a shallow dome that appears to have been constructed entirely of rubble stone at its north end. This northern tower-like anchor to the arcade also had a walkway or ramp leading up to it. The arcade itself was divided into four distinct sections, with rooflines generally descending with each section, from south to north. The smallest, and northern-most, part of the building has at least openings in its east elevation and one hipped-roof dormer cut into the shingled roof. The middle portion of the building has a slightly higher ridgeline, three hipped-roofed dormers, and four openings in its east elevation. It adjoins to the tallest portion of building; this section has a steep hip roof, with one hipped-roof dormer, and three window openings in its east elevation. The northern-most window is a bay window, and the other two act as a pair. Between this prominent section and the tower is the last part of the arcade; all that is evident in the photograph is a lower roof ridge and one dormer.²³

Several years later, after the Chautauqua had given way to the trolley and amusement park, another photograph captures the appearance of the east elevation of the arcade. Two dormers were added. One was inserted north of the existing dormer in the tall, hipped roof section and the other was placed to the south of the existing three in the southern-most section of the building. The new dormer on the south end was smaller than the others were. It was narrower in profile as well. To enhance the comfort of the occupants, some sort of heating system had been installed, as evidenced by the vent poking through the hip roof.²⁴ There also was some sort of cupola rising above the ridgeline of the long middle section of the building distinguished by the row of four dormers.²⁵

Creation of the Arcade

Initially intended to house shops and stores, the arcade was a commercial enterprise with an almost guaranteed market. People attending the Chautauqua program and living on the grounds in the estimated five hundred-odd tents, in addition to those living nearby in Baltzley's development, Glen Echo Heights, patronized the businesses.²⁶ Promotional material described

²³ This section most likely is that part of the arcade that curves toward the tower and is encapsulated by a storage closet in the present Yellow Barn. The pair of windows, just south of the bay window, is visible today. Site visit, Summer 2001; [View looking north to south at the east elevation and entrance to the Glen Echo Chautauqua grounds], Photograph 1900, Montgomery County Historical Society, Rockville, Maryland. (MCHS hereafter)

²⁴ This vent was recorded in the undated photograph of the Chautauqua grounds, with the west elevation of the arcade in the background. See Glen Echo photographs, MCHS.

²⁵ [View looking north to south at the east elevation of the stone arcade, towers, park entrance, and trolley lines], Photograph n.d., MCHS.

²⁶ Montgomery County Land Records, Plat Book A, pp. 30-31, Herman K. Viele, "Map of Glen-Echo Heights near Washington. D.C.," 1889. (Reference: Liber JA No. 11, folio 71). The cash book and ledger of the Baltzley brothers show that they had several real estate ventures in addition to Glen-Echo Heights. These included the Glen Echo Café, the Glen Echo Resort, the Glen Echo Land and Building Company, and the Glen Echo Land Association. Related businesses included the Glen Echo Gold Mining Company and the Glen Echo Granite Quarry Company. See Edwin and Edward Baltzley, Ledger, 1890-1893. (Glen Echo Park, microfilm 1, book 3).

the arcade as

[a]djoining [the] western tower are the Post Office and Store buildings. They are so arranged to serve the public outside the grounds and the public inside. They will house all the stores both Glen Echo and the Chautauqua will require for a number of years.²⁷

Once work began at Glen Echo, local newspapers reported on the activity there. For example, in May of 1891, the Washington Post provided an update on the buildings at Glen Echo, and in doing so, the report gave the Chautauqua some advance publicity.²⁸ Although attention focused on the Amphitheater and Hall of Philosophy, both allegedly in progress, the Post provided a general description of work at the site. The Post observed that

During the past two weeks steady progress has been made on the buildings and grounds at Glen Echo. The electric light poles are in place; thousands of feet of water pipe have been laid; fire plugs and hydrants are being put into position; cottages are going up. The unique and beautiful entrance to the grounds is well under way, and the most intense activity characterizes the place. The Hall of Philosophy attracts the attention of visitors as its substantial walls approach completion. At the Amphitheater the sound of the stone hammers has given place to that of the carpenters busy laying the floors and finishing the platforms for chairs on the ascending stairs.²⁹

While the Post's reference to the "unique and beautiful entrance to the grounds" is the closest it comes to commenting directly on the towers and adjacent arcade, records of Chautauqua finances show that it cost \$2699.63 to construct the arcade.³⁰ These documents also reveal some of the service providers contributing to the raising of the building. These individuals and companies are listed as follows:

²⁷ The Glen Echoan: Devoted to Glen Echo and the Glen Echo Chautauqua Located at Glen Echo-on-the-Potomac Five Miles from Washington the Washington Rhine (Washington, D.C.: 189[1/2]), pp. 19-23, 45.; HSR, p. III-187.

²⁸ "On the way to Glen Echo: Progress on the Buildings." Washington Post 12 May 1891, p. 1. (microfilm reel 39, 03-26-1891-06/15/1891)

²⁹ "A Corner-Stone Laying at Glen Echo: The Progress on Buildings and Grounds – Demands for Lots." Washington Post, 19 May 1891, p. 1. (microfilm reel 39, 03/26/1891- 06/15/1891).

³⁰ HSR, p. III-178. Note: In the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo Ledger, 1890-1891, there are \$24.27 of expenses for the arcade in July 1890 (p.19); this balance was carried forward to p. 64, however, all of the charges (\$2699.63) are brought together and listed under the heading "Chautauqua Arcade" on p. 205. (Glen Echo Park, microfilm 2, book 7). In the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo Ledger, 1891-1898, there are only \$2096.12 worth of expenses for the arcade specifically; these were charged between May and September of 1891. Also in this ledger, the expenses incurred for erecting the store building came to \$2536.21; these charges were made between June 1891 and January 1893. (Glen Echo Park, microfilm 2, book 6) Corresponding to this ledger is the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo Journal, 1891-1898, against which many of the arcade and store buildings charges can be checked. (Glen Echo Park, microfilm 1, book 4).

George J. Johnston, cement
Henry B. Looker, professional services on sewer and water
J. Edward Libbey, lumber and flooring
Bridges and Presgraves
James B. Lambie, locks, nails
Barber & Ross, sashes and frames
C.J. Collier, painting and staining
Fischer and Johnston
Boanihall Deane and Co.
W.F. Hewitt
Weaver

Later, when the Washington Post again reported on the Glen Echo Chautauqua's development, the paper was forthcoming with more details on the arcade and its occupants. The Post noted,

The W.F. Houghton Furniture Company, of this city, have rented the furniture store in the Arcade on the association's grounds, and besides keeping a full stock for sale will rent tent furniture at the following rates: One cot, furnished with comfort, blanket, pillow, mattress, pillow slip, chair, tin toilet set complete at the following prices: One night, 35 cents; three nights, \$1; one week, \$1.50; two weeks, \$2.50; three weeks, \$3; four weeks, \$4.

The newspaper then described several structures on-site. The Post's presentation of the arcade read as follows:

The Arcade

This structure, located near the main entrance to the grounds, is intended to afford convenient shelter to the business department. It will be a neat and artistic building, and under its ample roof the stores are to be located. Leases have been made to the following: Furniture, W.F. Houghton & Co.; groceries, John F. Page; market store, John A. Hughes, of the Dupont Market; bakers and wholesale ice cream, Stiles and Corby Brothers; barber and baths, Henry Raabe; druggist, E.P. Mertz; S.B. Sheets, confectionary; and Brentano, books and stationary. Other lines of business will locate in these rooms, so that by the opening of the assembly it will be possible to find in the Arcade anything that may be needed by residents on the grounds.³¹

It is uncertain when during the first season of the Glen Echo Chautauqua that the arcade was

³¹ "The National Chautauqua: The Glen Echo Railway All Right – More About Prices," Washington Post 21 June 1891, p. 1.

completed. Newspapers covering the Chautauqua concentrated on its program, only hinting at the unfinished state of the structures there as they wrote about rain-storms, ceremonies, and popular endorsement of the enterprise.³² Because little to no activity occurred at the Glen Echo Chautauqua in the summer of 1892, it is likely the construction was finished sometime during the 1891 season.³³ From 1892 until it burned in 1914, the arcade and store buildings were a substantial part of the park's built environment.³⁴

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: A mixture of the heavy, almost medieval in character, stone masonry and later-day wood-frame, the Yellow Barn defies aesthetic classification. However, the wood-frame sections of the building, seen particularly in the integration of the porch into the exterior shingles on the south end of the east elevation, are reminiscent of the Shingle style of architecture. Shingle-style buildings are identifiable by the use of wood shingles over a contrasting foundation and by the dominating rooflines. By covering the building in one material, generally wood shingles, the various parts of the building are brought into one, unified whole albeit one that is only skin-deep. The exterior sheathing also masks the frame, softens edges, corners or seams, and emphasizes

³² See, for example, "Rain at Glen Echo," The Evening Star, 18 June 1891, p. 8. (microfilm reel 80, 03/26/1891-06/25/1891). Although the cash book, journal, and ledger of the National Chautauqua of Glen Echo reveal that the organization paid for advertising, including payments to Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, it is unclear if the Baltzley brothers supplied the text. If they did – and certainly the similarity in the landscape's description hints at this – then it would be understandable that their words would emphasize the program and their plans rather than the incomplete state of the buildings and grounds. Regarding the advertising, see, for example, National Chautauqua of Glen Echo Ledger, 1890-1898, pp. 470-471 (Glen Echo Park, microfilm 2, book 6), and National Chautauqua of Glen Echo Journal, 1891-1898, p. 33 (Glen Echo Park, microfilm 1, book 4).

³³ Based on a collection of George Freeman Pollack's reminiscences about Glen Echo, it has been thought that a malaria scare kept people from returning to the Glen Echo Chautauqua. This is because a well-known Washingtonian and lecturer at the Chautauqua, Henry Spencer, died in August of 1891. His obituary mentions his connection to Glen Echo and the thought that when "he returned to the city several weeks ago it was thought he contracted malaria but a congestive chill (pneumonia) was the cause of death." See "Henry C. Spencer's Death: Sudden Demise of the Well-Known Business Educator," The Washington Post, 31 August 1891, p. 2. (microfilm reel 40); and Owen Kelley, "How Glen Echo Park Joined the National Park Service," pp. 8-9. (MCHS) Kelley states that the Baltzleys lacked the capital to properly promote the Chautauqua in 1892; moreover, he argues that it was A.H. Gillet's illness and a lack of advance sales for the summer that prompted the Baltzleys to cancel the 1892 season. Likely, it was a combination of the malaria rumors after the close of the first season and a drop in promotion that kept the advance sales low and so put the summer of 1892 in doubt. The grounds were, however, open for the fourth of July celebration. The Evening Star reported on the success of this venture. See "The Fourth at Glen Echo," The Evening Star, 5 July 1892, p. 5. (microfilm reel 85, 06/18/1892-09/15/1892). The Star also mentions "the improvements that have been made in the way of building were objects of general interest and admiration," suggesting then that the structures were finished before any 1892 visits to the place.

³⁴ It is said that the arcade and store buildings were converted into a small bowling alley around 1897. "Glen Echo Park, Yellow Barn," List of Classified Structures, 2001, National Capital Region, National Park Service.

horizontal lines. These features of Shingle-style architecture are discernable in the southeast portion of the building and in the overall horizontality of the structure from north to south. The interiors of Shingle-style structures followed any number of floor plans and accommodated a variety of spatial needs. Predominantly, though, Shingle-style buildings were associated with domesticity, and the most identifiable section of the Yellow Barn as part of an architectural aesthetic is the south end; this part of the building initially served as dwelling for the park superintendent.

2. Condition of fabric: The Yellow Barn is in fair-to-poor condition overall. There is evidence of settling in the stone walls, of rotting wood members, and of peeling paint throughout the structure. In some instances, the walls, floors, and ceilings are lacking in interior finish or are missing altogether. Parts of the building do not appear to be structurally sound.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Dimensions: The first story of the Yellow Barn measures about 72' x 35' with a 24' x 18' extension on the north end. The second story measures only approximately 24' x 34', although both levels are longer than they are wide. The second story abuts the Chautauqua Tower to the south.

2. Foundations: The Yellow Barn was built largely on the foundations of the one-and-one-half story stone Chautauqua-era store building and the arcade. Wood frame sections support the building in places where the stone was no longer useable or extant.

3. Walls: The walls are a mixture of stone and wood siding. The wood sections are also a mix of shingles (east, south, and west elevations), of vertically aligned boards placed side by side and nailed into place (north and west elevations), and of horizontal weatherboards, more refined in character than the other coverings (south elevation, east of door). The variety of wall covering conveys the building's evolution over time. Perhaps, however, the use of shingles to clad the south section of the building represents an effort to distinguish between the traditional utilitarian functions of the structure and that part of the building's use as a residence.

4. Structural System: The Yellow Barn consists of a combination of load-bearing stone masonry walls and foundations, left over from the original structure on the site, and wood-frame construction. The wood-frame portions are supported by 2 x 10s at 18" on center with a maximum span of 16'. The northern extension is underpinned by 2 x 8s at 24" on center that span 16'. Similarly, the second floor is framed out with 2 x 8s, also 24" on center, that span 12'; these are supported by wood columns and built-up wood beams. The roof trusses over the northern extension span 16' to the exterior walls. These trusses are reinforced by purlins. A slightly larger roof system covers the rest of the one-story wing; here there are trusses extending 32' across to the exterior walls and

reinforced by 2 x 6 purlins, spaced 24" on center, spanning 12' between each truss. Over the second story is a series of rafters, both old and new reinforcements; each 2 x 6 rafter is placed 24" on center and extends 16' up to the ridge line.³⁵ The older rafters are secured by a series of new W-trusses, seen above the second-story, and by what resembles a tilted plate running north to south near the rafter feet.

5. Porches, stoops, balconies, bulkheads: Tucked beneath the gable roof of the second-floor is a porch on the southwest corner of the building. It measures about 12' x 8'. There is one wood post at the southwest corner that supports the downspout and provides a tie-in for the south railing. The railing consists of unadorned, square-shaped balusters painted white beneath a hand rail. The west side railing is no longer extant. The flooring is made of wood. Similarly, there is a recessed porch on the southeast side of the second-story section of the building. It measures approximately 12' x 4'. Leading into the south end of the west elevation is an open string stair consisting of four steps running parallel to the building and joining to a small, approximately 5' square landing.

6. Chimneys: There is no chimney in the Yellow Barn.

7. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: There are four exterior doors leading into the various studio spaces that comprise the Yellow Barn as well as one door leading into the first floor of the two-storied end of the structure. The door cut into the stonework of the east elevation is a modern, six-panel door inset into a simple surround with mitered corners. Reminiscent of a glazed transom, there is a wood piece, painted red, filling the space between the top of the door casing and the wall plate above; this transom-like piece also replaces the segmental arch seen in the original fenestration of the stone wall. A five-panel door opens into the first floor of the south elevation; it is painted brown. The frame has mitered corners, while the remains of the surround are butt-joined and suggestive, in an ornamental way, of post and lintel construction. Opening into the south end of the west elevation is a red-painted, paneled door with similar framing and ornamental surround as that seen in the south exterior wall. The six panels above the lock rail have been filled-in, however. Providing access to the northern extension is a doorway cut into the west elevation; it is made wood in manner similar to a board-and-batten door as the vertical members seen on the exterior are held in place by a 'z' brace on the inside. Above the door is a decorative sunburst. In the north elevation, there is a wide door made of wood that is also painted brown and framed by butt-joined, unornamented casing.

b. Windows and shutters: Perhaps the one consistent feature among the variety

³⁵ Regarding the frame sections, see HSR, pp. IV-15.

of windows found in the Yellow Barn is that none of them have shutters. In the second-story, the paired windows are double-hung sash glazed with multiple small lights over one large light, mostly forty-two-over-one. Punctuating the west elevation, on the first story, are single windows, each glazed with many lights, ranging from six with three half-size lights to twenty-one lights per opening. To the north, there are two windows each glazed with fifteen lights in the north elevation of the extension (pottery studio). There are also three closed window openings: an unevenly partitioned, elongated window that is home to an air conditioning unit on its west side and two windows in first and second story gable ends. The first-story gable end window is vented. On the east elevation, there are three small windows found at the ends of the stone section that are capped by segmental arches made of stone. The northern most window is glazed with lights arranged thirty-two-over-one, while the southern two are both glazed with twelve-over-one lights. The last function aesthetically as a pair. Returning to the north end of the stone wall and working to the south, the next four openings extend beneath a segmental arch to the ground, suggesting that each was originally a doorway. The southern two are boarded up completely, although in a way suggestive that they too were converted into double hung sash. The two northern-most of the four are glazed with six lights in the top sash; the bottom sash has been boarded up. The next opening is larger than the other four and consists of a pair of closed windows. In addition, above the stone wall, there are a series of rectangular windows grouped in threes, which naturally light the interior spaces much as clerestory windows would do. There is also a series of vertically oriented windows placed above another boarded-up opening; these lights illuminate the studio space inside. Finally, there is one small, almost square window (2' 6" x 2' 7" including frame) in the south end of the east elevation; it has been boarded up and no longer is glazed. There are no window openings cut into the south elevation.

8. Roof: The Yellow Barn has a gable roof, with a ridge running north to south, that is covered by modern asphalt shingles.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plan: The first floor of the Yellow Barn is divided into essentially three large rooms that are used for studio space and for storage space. The northern extension – home to a pottery studio – measures 23'7 ¼" x 15'10 3/8" and is accessed by a door in its southwest corner. Immediately south of the pottery studio is another large room, measuring 23'1 ½" x 33' ½", that has been partitioned into two spaces and is accessed by an exterior door in its north elevation. The northern portion of the middle room houses lockers for the artists and the interior, southern portion provides another studio space, but has no independent means of reaching the outdoors. The third, and southern-most room measures 47'5" x 32'5"; out of this space a 12'8" x 16'9 ¾" rectangle has been carved.

The smaller space served as the first floor of the residential section of the Yellow Barn. It is accessed only by way of a door in the south elevation. Moreover, this area provides the only way to the second floor of the Yellow Barn from the inside.³⁶ The second floor measures about 24' x 33' overall and is partitioned into three rooms, one closet, and two porches. There is no second floor above the studio spaces, only attic crawl space.

2. Stairways: Only partially intact, the second (upper) leg of a half-turn stair with winders remains.

3. Flooring: Where extant in the southern portion of the building, the floor consists of tongue and groove boards, approximately 2 1/2" wide on average, running east to west. There is, however, no flooring in the first story of the two-story section of the Yellow Barn. In the studios to the north of the two-story section, the flooring varies from modern plywood to random-width boards running north to south.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: Where intact, the walls are made of plaster or wall board and are painted. On the second-floor, where the walls are intact, simple unpainted wood boards serve as crown molding, chair rail, and baseboard.

5. Openings

a. Doorways and doors: There are several interior doorways in the Yellow Barn. A modern, metal door has been installed in the partition wall in the middle room, allowing the studio space to be closed off from the communal locker room. There is, however, no decorative surround or casing for this doorway. In large studio space, there are two closet doors made of wood and surrounded by simple, casing with mitered corners. The entrance to the tower has been blocked. On the second floor, the doors leading out to the porches are glazed, with the exception of bottom panels, and so transfer natural light to the interior spaces. The door separating the hall from the stairway is paneled.

b. Windows: The interior finish of the windows is much the same as that seen on the exterior: unornamented casing, often left unpainted or painted/stained brown.

6. Decorative features and trim: Save the curving brackets and painted (white) corner boards on the exterior, there is no decorative feature or trim worthy of separate description remaining in the building. Although, on the second floor, there is evidence of some decorative scheme for in lieu of ornamental crown molding and chair rails, there are plain, wood members nailed into place. These wood members stand in contrast to the

³⁶ Previously, the second floor of the Yellow Barn was connected to the Chautauqua Tower; together with the southern portion of the Yellow Barn, the second and third floors of the tower were used as living quarters for the park superintendent. The door connecting the two buildings has been closed.

white wallboard, where it is extant. Similarly, the baseboards are slightly larger versions of the same thing. These features distinguish the residential portion of the 1914 building.

7. Hardware: What remains of the hardware is modern, such as the nails and the locking mechanisms. The latter includes hook and eye locks, padlocks, key-operated doorknobs made by "Best," strap hinges, and butt hinges.

8. Mechanical Equipment: There is electricity in the building, which generates interior lighting and runs the (window) air conditioning unit. There is water in the southern-most studio space.

D. Site:

The Yellow Barn rests next to the Chautauqua Tower and entrance into Glen Echo Park. Because of its location at the perimeter of the site, near the entrance, and beside the tower, the Yellow Barn provides a focal point for those approaching the park from the north. Its location north of the tower and entry places the Yellow Barn in a more private part of the public park, however. It is home to the resident artists, providing them with studio and storage space, and so is a more of a destination rather than an attraction luring in the park-goer. Moreover, in contrast to the other amusement park-era buildings in Glen Echo, the significant elevation of the Yellow Barn does not face into the park. Its east elevation with the stone wall and Shingle-style wood-frame features looks out onto the approach road.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Architectural drawings:

1. Denver Service Center, Technical Information Center, Denver, Colorado. (NPS)

Plan & Elevation of Chautauqua Tower and Barn	n.d.
Yellow Barn	08/1985

Two property surveys exist for Glen Echo Park in the Denver Service Center's collection, one done in 1941 for the Baltzley heirs and the other in 1952. Copies of plats recorded in 1957, 1958, and 1960, are stored in Denver as well as topographical documentation for the town and park, hydrological maps (1985, 1986, 1994), aerial photographs (1965, 1984), and proposed archaeological survey information (n.d.). Plus, the Denver Service Center's Technical Information Center holds microfilm copies of the several site plans (1992), development plans (1970, 1971), and an interim plan (1979) for the Glen Echo Park area. The Technical Information Center also maintains documents produced when utilities came into, or were altered within, the park; these date primarily between the 1950s and 1993. Likewise, documents relating to transportation into and out of the park

are held in Denver. An "Existing Conditions" report (1981) and an "Existing Facilities Survey" (n.d.) are on file, too.

2. Montgomery County Land Records, Rockville, Maryland.

There are two plats for Glen Echo. The first was made in 1889 (see Plat Book A, pp. 30-31). This plat recorded part of the "Glen Echo Heights" subdivision. The second plat was made in 1891 (see Plat Book B, pp. 16-17). Also known as the "Looker Map," this plat recorded the grounds of the "National Chautauqua of Glen-Echo of Montgomery County, Maryland."

B. Early Views:

1. Theodor Horydczak Collection, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress.

In addition, selected images from this collection may be seen on the website for Glen Echo Park (<http://www.nps.gov/glec>).

2. Richard A. Cook Collection, Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Copies of the collection photographs are on file at Glen Echo Park.

3. Abram Baker Collection, Clementon, New Jersey.

Copies of the fifty photographs in this collection are on file at Glen Echo Park.

4. Montgomery County Historical Society, Rockville, Maryland.

The Historical Society's collection covers Glen Echo proper, the Glen Echo Chautauqua, and Glen Echo Amusement Park. Some of the earliest images are part of the Leroy O. King Collection and date to the 1890s.

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D. Manuscripts/Collections:

Columbia Historical Society, Washington, D.C.

The Historical Society maintains the John Clagett Proctor Collection, which emphasizes the C&O Canal rather than the Park itself, and the Society's vertical files, which include newspaper clippings and materials about the Park's recent history, that is the segregation and sale, and some Chautauqua nostalgia.

Glen Echo Park, Glen Echo, Maryland.

Glen Echo Park records include video and newspaper clippings about the Park. Also on site there are copies of Richard A. Cook Collection and Abram Baker Collection photographs and slides, as well as microfilm copies of account books, press scrapbooks, and park records dating from 1891 to about 1968 collected by Richard Cook. The original books were obtained from Emory Crouch by Richard Cook.

Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Library, Washington, D.C.

The library maintains a "Washingtoniana Collection" in its vertical files, which include press clippings and other materials relating to Glen Echo from the 1930s to the 1970s.

Montgomery County Historical Society, Rockville, Maryland.

The Historical Society has press clippings, photographs, and miscellaneous materials relating to the recent history of Glen Echo Park and its restoration/fundraising efforts.

National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C., and College Park, Maryland.

In Washington, D.C., there are records of the Bureau of the Census that place the Baltzleys and Frank Finlon in Glen Echo, Maryland, at times that correspond with their involvement in the park and with the times they were in residence, particularly, Finlon. Also downtown there are records pertaining to Washington's public buildings and public parks (Record Group 42), but Glen Echo became a National Park Service site too late to be included in the archival record at this juncture. Similarly, in College Park, Maryland, the holdings of the civilian textual record department, cartographic and architectural records, motion pictures, and still pictures do not relate directly to the park because of its late arrival in the Park Service system. The archival record group for the National Park Service is Record Group 79. There is some information relating to the George Washington Memorial Parkway, but too early to reference Glen Echo. There is also a picture of the Chautauqua Institute's Hall of Missions in New York (reference RG 306-PS, negative number 52-11530) taken by a photographer for the U.S. Information

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Richard A. Cook Collection, private, Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Manuscripts, photographs, and documents relating to the history of Glen Echo as both a Chautauqua site and an amusement park site. Microfilm copies were made for Glen Echo Park, and are available for research through the National Park Service.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

Documentation was undertaken in the summer of 2001 by the Washington, D.C. office of the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). The principals involved were E. Blaine Cliver, Division Chief, HABS/HAER, and Paul D. Dolinsky, Chief, HABS. The project was jointly sponsored by the George Washington Memorial Parkway, Audrey Calhoun, Superintendent; and by HABS/HAER. The documentation was initiated by Mark S. Schara, Project Leader, with Catherine C. Lavoie, Supervisory Historian, of HABS and by Tim Buehner, Historical Architect, George Washington Memorial Parkway. The field recording was done by Project Supervisor Mark S. Schara (Washington, D.C.), and HABS architect J. Raul Vazquez (Washington, D.C.), with architectural technicians Michael Gible (The Catholic University of America) and Bodgan Kutsevych (US/ICOMOS). The report was written by HABS historian Virginia B. Price. Thank you to Karen Pittleman, Sam Swersky, and Mary Troy of Glen Echo Park for the assistance they gave to me during the documentation effort.